GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1486
ANSWERED ON:08.12.2015
Old Age Homes
Jadhav Shri Prataprao Ganpatrao;Kher Smt. Kirron;Laguri Smt. Sakuntala;Vanaroja Smt. R.

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total population of senior citizens in the country, State-wise;

(b) the total number of old age homes set up in the country along with the funds sanctioned for the purpose;

(c) whether the Government is considering to periodically check the old age homes to assess the working conditions and if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether irregularities in the implementation of the scheme and utilisation of funds sanctioned to various old age homes have been reported and if so, the details thereof and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard; and

(e) whether the Government is contemplating to open more old age homes in the country in view of the increasing population of senior citizens and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
(SHRI VIJAY SAMPLA)

(a) As per census 2011, the total population of Senior Citizens in the country is 10.38 crores. A Statement showing the total population of senior citizens in the country, State-wise is at Annexure-I.

(b) This Ministry is implementing a Central Sector Scheme of Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP) under which grants-in-aid are given for running and maintenance of inter-alia, Old Age Homes, Day Care Centres, Mobile Medicare Units etc. The main objective of the Scheme is to improve the quality of life of Older Persons by providing basic amenities like shelter, food, medical care and entertainment opportunities etc. Implementing agencies eligible for assistance under the Scheme are Panchayati Raj Institutions/Local Bodies, Non-Governmental Voluntary Organizations, Institutions or Organizations set up by Government as autonomous/subordinate bodies, Government Recognized Educational Institutions, Charitable Hospitals/Nursing Homes, and Recognized Youth Organizations such as Nehru Yuvak Kendra Sanghathan (NYKS) and in exceptional cases the State Governments/UT administrations. A statement showing total number of old age homes assisted and funds released during the last three years and current year under the Scheme of IPOP is at Annexure-II.

(c) & (d) Under the Scheme, the grants-in-aid are released only on the basis of recommendation of State Government/UT concerned along with Inspection Report. The prime responsibility for inspection of the projects undertaken under this Scheme lies with the State Government/Union Territory Administration. The performance of the aforesaid Scheme is reviewed from time to time through inter alia, inspections, periodic field visits of nodal officers of the Ministry, Regional Conferences with State Secretaries etc. The release of grants to NGOs is made only on receipt of Inspection Report of State Government and the Utilization Certificate in respect of previous grants. Apart from this, the performance of the NGOs is also monitored from time to time through surprise inspections conducted by officers deputed by this Ministry. On the basis of the inspection reports received, necessary corrective action is taken. In respect of deficiencies reported, show cause notices are issued to the NGOs concerned and follow up action is taken on the basis of the replies received. The details of NGOs to whom show cause notices were issued during the year (2014-15) are at Annexure-III. In serious cases of misuse of funds or malfunctioning or non-functioning etc. of the projects, the concerned NGOs are blacklisted after following the prescribed procedure. Details of NGOs blacklisted is at Annexure-IV.

(e) Section 19(1) of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act mandates that the State Government may establish and maintain such number of Old Age Homes at accessible places as it may deem necessary in a phased manner, beginning with at least one in each district to accommodate a minimum of one hundred fifty senior citizens who are indigent. Pursuant to this provision, it is for the State Governments to make assessment of the requirement of old age homes keeping in view that number of indigent Senior Citizens in each district.